

Microsoft Enterprise Agreement

State and local government agencies benefit from statewide software agreement

The Georgia Technology Authority has chosen Microsoft desktop software, already used by most state agencies, as the standard to make it easier for government entities to share information. The Microsoft Enterprise Agreement is helping government entities obtain better prices and making communication with government easier by standardizing business software.

Significant cost savings

GTA negotiated the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement, which reduces the cost to purchase and support these data, document and e-mail programs by at least 50 percent compared to other discounted prices. The negotiated annual price of \$240.50 per user is valid for a period of three years after enrollment.

Begun in 2001, the agreement now covers more than 62,000 desktop computers in the state. Without the agreement, participating government agencies would have had to spend an additional combined \$28.5 million over three years for the same software.

Popular business software plus upgrades

The three-year agreement provides licenses and upgrades for MS Office (including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access and Outlook), MS operating system and connection licenses to other Microsoft products. Also included are security enhancements and features provided by Microsoft over a three-year period at no additional cost.

Local governments enrolled in the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement are also eligible for the **Microsoft Home Use Program**. It allows local government employees to purchase Microsoft Office Professional directly from Microsoft for use on their home computers for \$19.95 (plus tax and shipping).

A separate Microsoft Select Agreement offers volume discounts on additional products that are purchased individually. They include

- Windows 2000 server, NT or XP server
- Exchange 2000 message server, NT or XP server
- Project, Visio and developmental software

State and local agencies can enroll in either or both of the agreements by contacting Jennifer Hartwig with Software Spectrum at 404-479-6602 or careteamgovteast@softwarespectrum.com.

For additional information about the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement, contact Lisa Mehalko with GTA at 404-463-4252 or lmehalko@gta.ga.gov.